

Arlington
National Cemetery
HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ EXPLORE



**Advisory Committee on
Arlington National Cemetery
Honor Subcommittee
October 24, 2016**

Arlington
National Cemetery
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**Advisory Committee on Arlington
National Cemetery
Remember and Explore Subcommittee
October 24, 2016**

ARLINGTON **National Cemetery**

HONOR ★ REMEMBER ★ EXPLORE



**Advisory Committee on Arlington
National Cemetery
October 25, 2016**



Arlington National Cemetery

**Update to the Committee regarding the Report to
Congress prepared for
PL 114-158**

October 2016

OVERALL CLASSIFICATION
UNCLASSIFIED



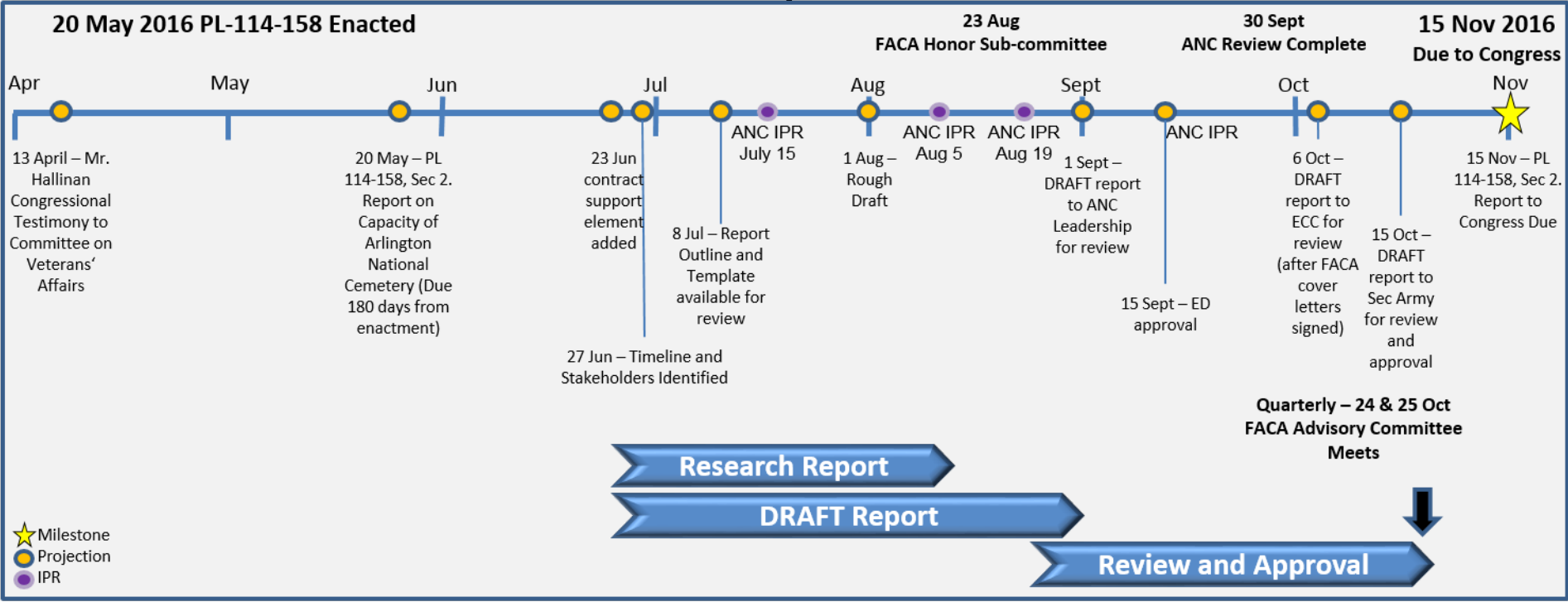
Report to Congress on Arlington National Cemetery's Capacity

Staff Involved

- ☐ Congressional Report Team
- ☐ ANC Congressional Affairs (CACO)
- ☐ ANC OCIO
- ☐ ANC Engineering
- ☐ ANC Historian
- ☐ ANC Legal Counsel
- ☐ ANC PAO
- ☐ ANC Staff Action Officer (SACO)
- ☐ ANC Senior Leadership
 - Deputy Superintendents
 - Superintendent
 - Executive Director

Impact

- ☐ Result of PL 114-158
- ☐ Report to Congress Due 15 Nov 2016
- ☐ Report to SecArmy 15 Oct 2016
- ☐ External Coordination
 - ✓ Advisory Committee
 - ✓ Army OCLL, OGC, OCPA (Briefed 16 Aug 2016)
 - ✓ MSO/VSO engagements
- ☐ ECC review and Sec Army signature required





Report to Congress Strategic Communication

August/September: Multiple meetings with VSO leadership (TMC) to discuss the future of eligibility at ANC

August 30: Posted news story on ANC website entitled “Arlington National Cemetery developing options to extend the life of the cemetery”

September/October: ANC & VSO leadership meetings with multiple House and Senate committees regarding eligibility and ANC’s lifespan

October/November: Developing web and social media outreach to gauge public sentiment regarding ANC and its future

November: Work with Army leadership on developing press release, fact sheet and talking points regarding report

Mid November: Engage external audiences with press release and pitch stories to media using ANC subject matter experts

November/December: Q&A sessions with Congressional committees regarding report and way forward



Engagements

HQDA Staff – has been engaged as needed

Congressional committee staff – multiple meetings per their request (SVAC/HVAC)

Military Service Organizations – two large group forums

Veteran Service Organizations – two large group forums

Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery – throughout the process

Diverse positions...common themes...

First, stakeholders feel that ANC should remain a viable and active cemetery for our service members who are killed in action or who die on active duty.

Second, a change in eligibility at ANC is unpopular with VSOs/MSOs. Many feel that expansion options should be exhausted first before pursuing eligibility change options.

Finally, at minimum, eligibility for ANC and VA cemeteries should be the same.



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HONOR - REMEMBER - EXPLORE



Arlington is...

"Our Nation's unique and iconic resting place for those who have made a significant sacrifice and commitment to the defense of our country in the Armed Services."

— Honor Subcommittee,
Advisory Committee on Arlington
National Cemetery

*The Eternal Bivouac of
our Nation's Honored dead...
A place of Remembrance for all
citizens...
A connection to our rich National
history...*

Part of the fabric of our Nation...

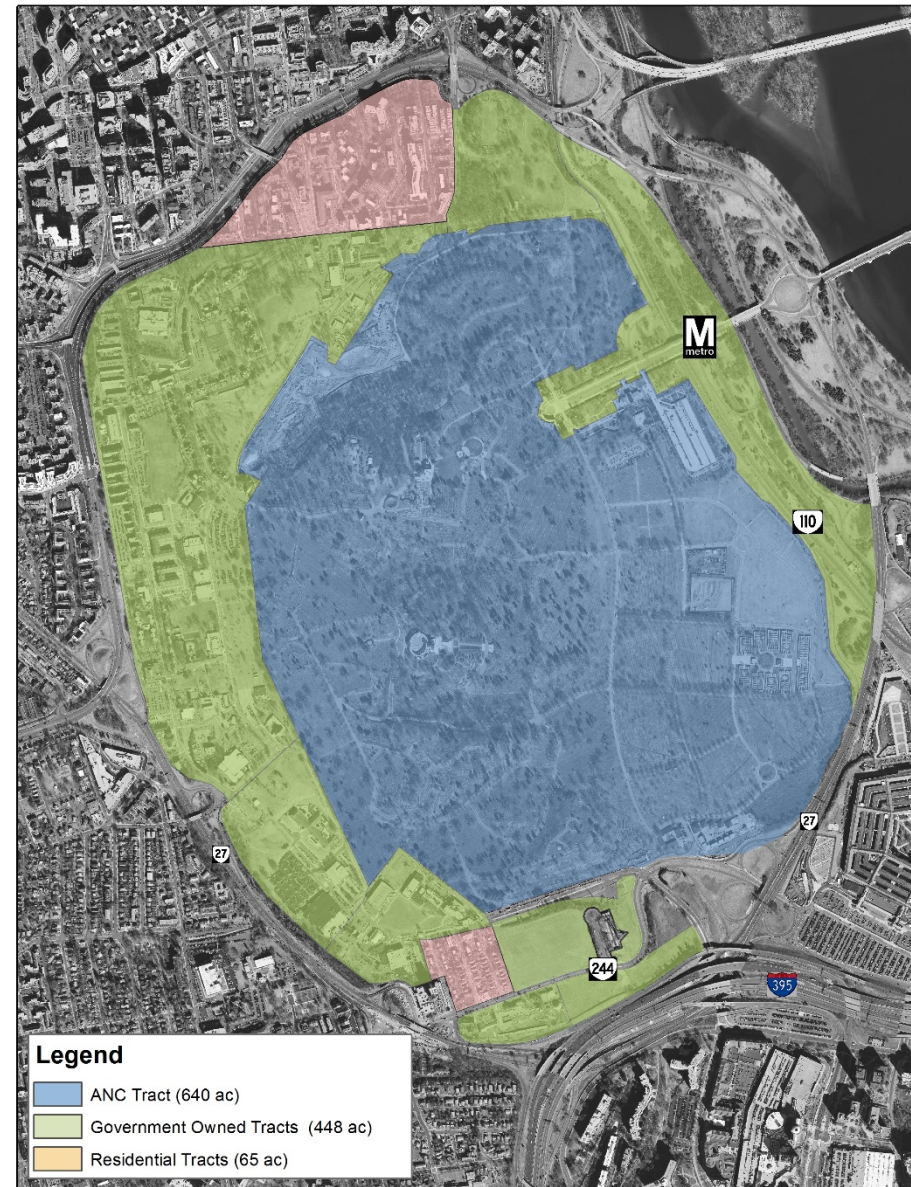
A holy place (President Obama)...

A National Shrine...



ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HONOR - REMEMBER - EXPLORE



Acreage as of 21 October 2016.



Arlington is...

*The Eternal Bivouac of
our Nation's Honored dead... Theodore O'Hara, 1858*

First stanza:

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo;
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On Fame's eternal camping-ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And Glory guards, with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead.



Arlington is...

A place of Remembrance for all citizens...

A connection to our rich National history...

Part of the fabric of our Nation...

A holy place...(May 26th, 2014, President Obama)

A National Shrine...



Arlington is...

“Our Nation’s unique and iconic resting place and living tribute to sacrifice and commitment in the defense of our country in the Armed Services.

The Eternal Bivouac of our Nation’s Honored dead...

Part of the fabric of our Nation...

A holy place...(May 26th, 2014, President Obama)

A National Shrine...”

– Honor Subcommittee, Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery



Arlington is...

Other quotes:

Looking across this field, we see the scale of heroism and sacrifice. All who are buried here understood their duty. All stood to protect America. And all carried with them memories of a family that they hoped to keep safe by their sacrifice. George W. Bush, 2005

Their sacrifice was great, but not in vain. All Americans and every free nation on earth can trace their liberty to the white markers of places like Arlington National Cemetery. And may God keep us ever grateful. George W. Bush, 2003

***“Arlington, this place of so many memories, is a fitting place for some remembering. So many wonderful men and women rest here, men and women who led colorful, vivid, and passionate lives.” ~
Ronald Reagan***



Arlington is...

“The willingness of some to give their lives so that others might live never fails to evoke in us a sense of wonder and mystery. One gets that feeling here on this hallowed ground, and I have known that same poignant feeling as I looked out across the rows of white crosses and Stars of David in Europe, in the Philippines, and the military cemeteries here in our own land. Each one marks the resting place of an American hero and, in my lifetime, the heroes of World War I, the Doughboys, the GI's of World War II or Korea or Vietnam. They span several generations of young Americans, all different and yet all alike, like the markers above their resting places, all alike in a truly meaningful way.”

~ Ronald Reagan, May 31st, 1982



Arlington...

...Arlington National Cemetery is a sacred place of honor and remembrance.

"The willingness of some to give their lives so that others might live never fails to evoke in us a sense of wonder and mystery. One gets that feeling here on this hallowed ground..." *President Ronald Reagan, May 31st, 1982.*

..."these memories, sad and proud, these quiet grounds, this cemetery and others like it all around the world, remind us with pride of our obligation and our opportunity...and to the dead here in this cemetery, we say 'they are the race – they are the race immortal. Whose beams make broad the common light of day! Though time may dim, though Death has barred their portal. These we salute, which nameless passed away.'" *President John F. Kennedy, Remarks at Arlington National Cemetery.*

"...this is Arlington, with its richness and beauty, its fame and grandeur. The first and most famous of our national cemeteries...as Arlington National Cemetery holds the remains of men and women who gave their lives serving their country, it also captures the reverence, dignity and greatness of those lives and of the century for which they were given." *Military District of Washington Information Paper, October 1961.*

"Every year, this ceremony marks another page in the life of our nation -- this year in particular, as we recognize the 150th anniversary of this holy space, Arlington National Cemetery. One hundred and fifty years ago, war raged on hillsides and farmlands not far from where we gather today. A nation ill-prepared for war found itself overwhelmed with the task of burying so many of its sons. So we declared upon this hill a final resting place for those willing to lay down their lives for the country that we love." *President Obama, May 26th, 2014.*

"Here, at Arlington, the deafening sounds of combat have given way to the silence of these sacred hills. The chaos and confusion of battle has yielded to perfect, precise rows of peace. The Americans who rest here, and their families -- the best of us, those from whom we asked everything -- ask of us today only one thing in return: that we remember them." *President Obama, May 30th, 2016.*



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